



CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

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May 23, 2006

Mr. Mark Larocque
PES LLC
PO Box 261
Parkesburg, PA 19365

Re: SC 1231, Choppee, Evaluation of Archaeological Potential

Dear Mr. Larocque,

I understand the at the background investigation for this location revealed no previously recorded archaeological or historic sites in the APE, although this may simply mean that the area has not been the subject of any past investigations that might produce such findings.

The topographic map for the site reveals the tower is proposed for the edge of a 20-foot contour, overlooking an area of lower elevation. The Georgetown County soil survey (Stuckey 1982:Map 16) reveals that the tower is to be location on Yemassee loam fine sands that are largely surrounded by Bladen and Wahee soils. The Yemassee soils are identified as somewhat poorly drained, but may have a seasonal high water table within a foot of the surface. The Wahee soils are also somewhat poorly drained, but on these soils the water table may be situated within 0.5 foot of the surface. The Bladen soils are classified as poorly drained, with a water table on the surface. Consequently, the elevation and slightly drier soils of the project tract, while not especially popular for prehistoric settlement, will not rule out the possibility of Native American camps. The 1975 aerial photograph for the tract soils some development already present, but construction is limited to the better drained Yemassee soils.

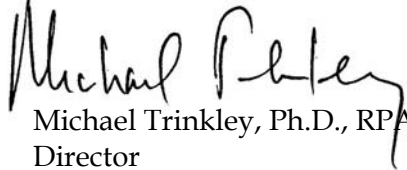
Chicora's Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County, South Carolina (Hacker and Trinkley 1993) reveals a relatively large site clustered at what is shown as Annieville on the modern topographic map. This site is shown on two maps -- the CCC Georgetown Timber Maps, dating from 1938-1939 and the 1939 Georgetown County Highway Map. Present on one map is a church and five structures. The other shows a church, farm and

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tenant units, a school, and a business establishment. This appears to be a relatively large and thriving community at the time of the Depression. The only statewide R.G. Dunn & Co. book we have on file is for 1912 and there is no listing for Pleasant Hill, so either the community was too small to be listed, or the one business began after 1912. Additional historical research would be needed to resolve this issue. Nevertheless, these sites are found on Yemassee soils – indicating that while classified as somewhat poorly drained, the soils were minimally suitable for the development of a small historic community during the first third of the twentieth century.

The photographs supplied by your firm show the tract as a grassed field. It is unclear from the photograph if there has been any earth movement on the site.

Consequently, the soils are suitable for at least historic settlement; the suitability of the parcel for prehistoric settlement is questionable. The parcel is in the immediate vicinity of a historic settlement, so it is possible that historic remains may be present in this area – the potential impact of existing development is unclear.

Sincerely,

Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA
Director

Citations

Hacker, Debi and Michael Trinkley

1993 *Cartographic Survey of Historic Sites in Georgetown County, South Carolina*. Research Contribution 110. Chicora Foundation, Inc., Columbia.

Stuckey, Benjamin N.

1982 *Soil Survey of Georgetown County, South Carolina*. U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.